

## ABSTRACT

## IMPROVEMENTS RELATING TO IMAGE CAPTURE SYSTEMS

- 5 An electronic image capture apparatus is disclosed comprising: an electronic camera (2) having a detector (3), a lens (4) having a field of view which is adapted to limit the radiation incident upon the detector to that within the field of view, an actuator (7) for moving the field of view across the document, a control means (20) for controlling the actuator to
- 10 move the camera across the document so as to obtain a set of overlapping sub-images corresponding to different areas of the document, and electronic processing means adapted to receive the set of sub-images produced by the camera and to process the sub-images to form a composite image of the portion of the document covered by the set of sub-
- 15 images. A set of processable sub-image files are produced which each comprise a data set of characters corresponding to characters appearing in a respective sub-image in the set and the relative location of the characters in that sub-image. The contents of each of the processable sub-image files are stitched into a blank text document by applying logical operators to
- 20 the data in the files to produce a complete composite text document containing data indicative of the textual content of the scanned document.

To be accompanied when published by Figure 1 of the drawings.